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## Amendments to the Claims/Listing of Claims

Please amend claims 3-5, 14, 23, and 25 and cancel claim 24 as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## 1.-2. (Cancelled)

- 3. (Currently amended) The polynucleotide of claim 4, wherein the SMRT corepressor comprises a repression domain having
- a) less than about 83% identity with a Sin3A interaction domain of N-CoR set forth as amino acids 255 to 312 of SEQ ID NO: 11;
- b) less than about 57% identity with repression domain 1 of N-CoR set forth as amino acids 1 to 312 of SEO ID NO: 11;
- c) less than about 66% identity with a SANT domain of N-CoR set forth as amino acids 312 to 668 of SEQ ID NO: 11; or
- d) less than about 30% identity with repression domain 2 of N-CoR set forth as amino acids 736 to 1031 of SEQ ID NO: 11.
- 4. (Currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a SMRT co-repressor (silencing mediator of retinoic acid receptor and thyroid hormone receptor), or a peptide portion thereof, or an isolated polynucleotide complementary thereto, wherein said SMRT co-repressor or peptide portion thereof is capable of mediating the transcriptional silencing of at least one member of the steroid/thyroid hormone superfamily of receptors, and wherein the amino acid sequence of said SMRT co-repressor or peptide portion thereof comprises at the amino acid sequence of having at least 80% sequence identity with SEQ ID NO: 5 or conservative variations thereof.

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(Currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a SMRT co-repressor 5. (silencing mediator of retinoic acid receptor and thyroid hormone receptor), or a peptide portion thereof, or an isolated polynucleotide complementary thereto, wherein said SMRT co-repressor or peptide portion thereof is capable of mediating the transcriptional silencing of at least one member of the steroid/thyroid hormone superfamily of receptors, and wherein said polynucleotide has at least 80% sequence identity with SEQ ID NO: 4.

## 6.-13. (Cancelled)

- (Currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a SMRT co-14. repressor (sileneing-mediator of retinoic-acid receptor and thyroid-hormone receptor), or a peptide portion thereof, wherein said SMRT-eo-repressor or peptide portion-thereof is eapable of mediating the transcriptional silencing of at least one member of the steroid/thyroid hormone superfamily of receptors, and wherein said polynucleotide is selected from the group consisting of:
- a polynucleotide encoding a SMRT co-repressor (silencing mediator of (a) retinoic acid receptor and thyroid hormone receptor) wherein said SMRT co-repressor is capable of mediating the transcriptional silencing of at least one member of the steroid/thyroid hormone superfamily of receptors and wherein said polynucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence having at least 80% sequence identity with nucleotides 1 to 3094 of SEQ ID NO: 4, provided that the polynucleotide does not contain a sequence identical to SEQ ID NO: 11; and
- polynucleotides complementary to the sequence of (a)[[,]] **(b)** provided that the polynucleotide does not contain a sequence identical to SEQ ID NO: 11
  - (Cancelled) 15.

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- 16. (Previously presented) A polynucleotide according to claim 14, wherein said polynucleotide is selected from the group consisting of:
  - (a) nucleotides 1 to 3094 of SEQ ID NO: 4; and
- (b) polynucleotides having at least 80% sequence identity with the complementary sequence of (a).
  - 17. (Cancelled)
- 18. (Previously presented) The polynucleotide of claim 5, comprising nucleotides 1 to 8561 of SEQ ID NO: 4.
- 19. (Previously presented) The polynucleotide of claim 4, which is operably linked to a second nucleotide sequence.
- 20. (Previously presented) The polynucleotide of claim 19, which encodes a fusion polypeptide comprising the SMRT co-repressor operably linked to a DNA binding domain of a transcription factor.
  - 21. (Previously presented) A vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 4.
  - 22. (Previously presented) A host cell containing the polynucleotide of claim 4.
- 23. (Currently amended) An isolated oligonucleotide, comprising at least 15 nucleotides, that hybridizes, under saitable high stringency conditions, to the polynucleotide of claim 4, but does not hybridize to a polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO: 11 or to a polynucleotide encoding an amino acid sequence consisting of amino acids 1031 to 2517 of

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SEQ ID NO: 5, wherein the oligonucleotide encodes at least five contiguous amino acids of a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

amino acids 720 to 745 of SEQ ID NO: 5; amino acids 716 to 742 of SEQ ID NO: 7; and amino acids 497 to 523 of SEQ ID NO: 9.

- 24. (Cancelled)
- 25. (Currently amended) The oligonucleotide of claim 23, which hybridizes, under suitable <a href="https://doi.org/10.10/10.10/">https://doi.org/10.10/</a> SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 7, but does not hybridize to a polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO: 9.

26.-38. (Cancelled)